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City Document.—No. 57.

CITY OF BOSTON.

AN ORDINANCE

IN RELATION TO THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

In Common Council, October 14, 1852.

Ordered to be printed.

Sent up for concurrence.

HENRY J. GARDNER, *President.*

In the Board of Mayor and Aldermen,

October 18, 1852.

Concurred.

BENJ. SEAVER, *Mayor.*

An Ordinance in relation to the Public Library.

Be it ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of Boston, in City Council assembled, as follows:

SECTION 1. There shall be chosen annually in the
2 month of January, by concurrent vote of the two
3 branches of the City Council, one member of the
4 Board of Mayor and Aldermen, one member of the
5 Common Council and five citizens at large, to consti-
6 tute a Board of Trustees for the Public Library, who
7 shall hold their offices until others are chosen in their
8 places, and any vacancy in said Board shall be filled
9 immediately, as aforesaid.

SECT. 2. The persons so chosen shall meet and
2 organize themselves into a Board by the choice of
3 one of their number as President, and they may
4 make such rules and regulations for their own gov-
5 ernment and in relation to subordinate officers by
6 them appointed, as they may deem expedient.

SECT. 3. The said Trustees shall have the general
2 care and control of the Public Library and of the ex-
3 penditure of all moneys appropriated therefor; they
4 may make such rules and regulations in relation to
5 the same and may appoint such subordinate officers,
6 as they may consider necessary and expedient, and
7 may fix their compensation, provided that the same
8 shall not exceed in the whole, the sum appropriated
9 therefor by the City Council. But the provisions
10 mentioned in this section shall at all times be subject
11 to any limitations or restrictions by the City Council.

SECT. 4. The said Trustees on or before the 15th
2 of November annually shall present to the City
3 Council a report, containing a statement of the con-
4 dition of the Library, the number of Books that have
5 been added during the past year with an account of
6 all receipts and expenditures, together with such in-
7 formation or suggestions as they may deem important,
8 and they shall at the same time transmit to the City
9 Council the annual report of the examination of the
10 Library hereinafter mentioned.

SECT. 5. There shall be chosen annually in the
2 month of October, and whenever a vacancy occurs by
3 concurrent vote of the two branches of the City Coun-
4 cil, a Librarian for the City Library, who shall be a
5 citizen of Boston, and who shall hold his office until
6 a successor is appointed or he is removed. He shall
7 be removable at the pleasure of the City Council and
8 shall receive such compensation as the Council may
9 determine.

SECT. 6. The Librarian shall have the immediate
2 care and custody of the Public Library; he shall
3 perform any and all of the services in relation to the
4 same and shall obey all rules, that may be prescribed
5 by the said Trustees, and he shall act as their Secre-
6 tary, and shall keep full and accurate records of all
7 their doings as a Board.

SECT. 7. The Trustees shall annually appoint a
2 Committee of five citizens at large, who, together with
3 a Trustee as Chairman, shall examine the Library and
4 make report of its condition to the Trustees.

SECT. 8. No payment of money shall be made on
2 account of the Library, except by order of the Board
3 and in pursuance of a warrant signed by the Presi-
4 dent.

SECT. 9. A letter of acknowledgment signed by

2 the President, and countersigned by the Librarian,
3 shall be promptly returned to each person making a
4 donation to the Library.

Sect. 10. In prescribing the regulations relative
2 to the care and use of the books, it shall be the duty of
3 the Trustees to adopt such measures as shall extend
4 the benefits of the institution as widely as practica-
5 ble throughout the community.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Oct. 11, 1852.

Passed : Sent down for concurrence.

BENJAMIN SEAVER, *Mayor.*

In Common Council, October, 14, 1852.

Passed in concurrence.

HENRY J. GARDNER, *President.*